

REMARKS

Claims 18-27 and 31-33 will be pending in the present application upon acceptance of these amendments. Claims 1-17 and 28-30 were previously cancelled. An Amendment under 37 CFR § 312 ("Amendment") was filed by Applicants on September 11, 2009, and a Response to Rule 312 Communication was mailed by the Patent Office on October 20, 2009. The Amendment was not accepted because claims 28 and 29 were previously cancelled and thus could not be amended. Amendments to these claims to remove dependencies to cancelled claims should have been entered as new claims. Accordingly, new claims 32 and 33 are being submitted herewith. Pursuant to a telephone conversation with Examiner Harlan on October 21, 2009, new claims 32 and 33 will be entered and will be allowed. Accordingly, claims 18-27 and 31-33 are considered to be allowable. A Notice to this effect is respectfully requested. If any questions remain, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the number given below.

Respectfully submitted,

BRINKS HOFER GILSON & LIONE

Date: October 21, 2009

By: Allyn B. Rhodes/
Allyn B. Rhodes
Registration No. 56,745

2801 Slater Road, Suite 120
Morrisville, NC 27560-8477
Phone: 919.481.1111